

UTAH BOARD OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

MEETING NOTES

Committee:	Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Committee
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Date:	Thursday February 18, 2010	Time:	10:00 – 11:30 am	Place:	State Dept. of Human Services 195 North 1950 West, Room 2026
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Members Present	Narda Beas-Nordell, Judge Leslie D. Brown, Debbie Rocha, Shirlee Silversmith, Salvador Mendez, Maria Garciaz, Manuel Romero, Kris Shaw, and Pat Berckman
Members Excused	Judge Larry Jones, Russ Van Vleet, Judge Michael D. DiReda, Jerry Oler and Holly Martak
Members Absent	Debra Charleston, and Dt. Trudy Cropper
Staff & Guest	Cuong Nguyen Reg Garff Tricia Jack and Ken Embley of CPPA (Guest) Major Scott Stephenson, Lt. Bruer Wade, and

Agenda Item 1:	Welcome/Introductions – Pat Berckman
Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pat welcomed everyone to the meeting. Pat asked for review of the minutes and approval. Maria motioned to approve the January 21, 2010 meeting minutes; Narda seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2:	POST – Progress Report – Debbie Rocha
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Debbie introduced Tricia Jack and Ken Embley of the Center for Public Policy and Administration at the University of Utah. They have contracted with the UBJJ to develop community relations training for POST. Ken and Tricia updated their progress per Subcommittee request at January meeting. Tricia gave a PowerPoint Presentation based on their report which consisted of objectives, methodology, keys findings, recommendations, other pertinent issues, and next steps. The detailed report was made available to those in attendance. In sum, the findings were based on four focus groups of POST cadets, recent POST graduates, Field Training Officers and POST Evaluators. The five findings included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> While it is useful to know about different cultures, this is inherently dangerous to teach in the classroom. The issues are specific to youth, not necessarily just minority youth. There is a level of fear among officers over liability issues, including disproportionate minority contact There are perceptions of law enforcement and issues of trust in different cultures that are difficult to change Building community relations is important, but there are differences in individual's understanding of what that means Recommendations included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Future Cultural Relations training is based on improving skills and changing personal perceptions of officers, and not on building knowledge of specific cultural groups. Work with Schools Resource Officers to improve Officers' skill level in communicating directly with youth, regardless of race or ethnicity.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Future training interventions on community relations should include some “introspection,” where officers are asked to consider their personal beliefs, values and perceptions of differences in communities. 4. Future training on Community Relations should include some consideration of how to develop good relationships with the community at large. 5. Increase the focus in POST on how to build relationships in the community, particularly in areas with large minorities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POST representatives, including the Director, Basic Training Bureau Chief, and Curriculum Chief were supportive of the findings and recommendations. • DMC Members discussed how to measure the effectiveness of the training, and even questioned if this type of training has been proven to be effective. Tricia and Ken explained that the Community Relations training takes a different approach to include experiential learning, which has been proven to be the highest level of learning among the many different learning models. It would ask participant to open up, learn diversity through experiences, scenarios, and cases discussion rather than statistics and lecturers. • There were concerns regarding finding #1, which contained the language “inherently dangerous” to teach different cultures in the classroom. Tricia explained that it meant that it would be difficult to separate cultures and teach about them in the classroom. It could emphasize stereotypes of specific cultures, which we want to prevent. Tricia agreed to revise the wording of finding #1. • Next Steps: The Subcommittee agreed for the Community Relations Working Group to meet with POST and CPPA representatives to discuss these findings and make decisions moving forward. Regular updates to the Subcommittee are required.
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Agenda Item 3:	2009 DMC Working Group Progress Report
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Analysis Working Group – Due to time constraints, Cuong briefly updated that the FY09 RRI Data is currently being collected and will be included in 2010 Update with OJJDP, which is due at the end of March 2010.

Agenda Item 4:	2010 DMC Annual Plan – Maria Garcia
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item postponed to next meeting.

Agenda Item 5:	Roundtable
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Item postponed to next meeting. • Other: two conferences are available that DMC Subcommittee members can attend with registration fees paid for by the UBJJ Board. Interested individual can attend one of the two: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 20th Annual Utah Gang Conference: April 8th-9th, 2010 at South Towne Exposition Center. 2. 31st Annual Troubled Youth Conference: May 6 & 7, 2010 at the Cliff Lodge, Snowbird, Utah. • Interested attendance should let Cuong know no later than Thursday February 25, 2010.

The next meetings are scheduled for Thursday March 18, 2010, State Capitol, East Senate Building, Spruce Room